IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, lines 4 to 14, replace the paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs.

In yet another embodiment of the invention[,] the changes in the signal processing which are effected whenever touching of the casing is detected comprises a time limit shut down of an automatic microphone process. In this way it is ensured[,] that the matching process is not disturbed by the large short term differences in the energy.

In a further embodiment of the invention[,] the changes in the signal processing which are effected whenever touching of the casing is detected comprising lasting changes in the processing of the audio signal presented to the user of the listening device. Such changes could be program shifts, volume ~~op~~up or down or permanent muting of the listening device according to the wishes of user.

Page 4, lines 4 to 17, replace the paragraph with the following amended paragraph.

Initially a mean value of the energy in each of the two channels is calculated. One way to detect whether a signal originates from a touching noise is to analyse the difference or ratio between the energies in the two channels. If the ratio makes a fast shift, this is an indication that the signal originates from touching noise. When the presence of such a signal is determined, a value within the DSP is shifted, and other parts of the

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DSP unit may react to the shift of this value. One reaction could be to stop the automatic procedure for amplitude and/or phase matching of the two microphones. In this way it is assured[,] that the microphone matching procedure is not influenced by the large differences in amplitude and/or phase which will occur when the hearing aid shell is touched. This may be extended such that the time pattern of the ratio between the two signals is determined for a given length of time. By doing this it becomes possible to determine the occurrence of repeated touching of the hearing aid. This could be used for communication of user input to the hearing aid. An example of user input could be program shifts or control of the volume.

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